



DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE:

**T-3**  
**A2004F**

August 23, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Donald L. Wolfe *Dnw*  
Director of Public Works

### **BENZ ROAD AND CANTERWOOD DRIVE, SANTA CLARITA TRAFFIC VOLUME REDUCTION MEASURES BOARD MOTION OF MAY 23, 2006 (AGENDA ITEM 30)**

This is in response to the May 23, 2006, Board motion directing Public Works to report back to the Board within 90 days on (1) the effectiveness of the turn restrictions to reduce cut-through traffic volumes on Benz Road and Canterwood Drive and (2) the feasibility of installing a fire gate at the intersection of Cross Creek Drive and Canterwood Drive. Attached is a copy of the minutes from the Board meeting.

Turn restriction signs were installed on Copper Hill Drive at Buckhorn Lane, Benz Road at Bouquet Canyon Road, and Sue Drive at Bouquet Canyon Road in June 2006. Changeable message signs were placed on Plum Canyon Road, Bouquet Canyon Road, and Copper Hill Drive to inform motorists of the turn restrictions. Data recently provided by the City of Santa Clarita reveals a reduction in traffic volumes on Benz Road, from about 3,200 to 2,100 vehicles per day. This reduction is consistent with the City's expectation. The City will continue to monitor traffic volumes on Benz Road and work with us to determine if any additional measures are needed.

Our monitoring of volumes on Buckhorn Lane revealed a 13 percent increase in traffic between March and June 2006. Recent counts taken after installation of the turn restrictions show volumes consistent with March 2006 traffic of about 500 vehicles per day.

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To address the cut-through traffic on Buckhorn Lane and Cross Creek Drive, we met on site with representatives of Fire and Sheriff's Departments, the California Highway Patrol (CHP), and the Fifth District to discuss the feasibility of a fire gate on Canterwood Drive at the City/County boundary. It was determined that a fire gate was not recommended due to safety and access issues. However, we presented an alternate cul-de-sac concept that would effectively close Canterwood Drive to through traffic. The attendees concurred that the concept appears feasible from an engineering and emergency access standpoint.

We have forwarded the concept to the Fire and Sheriff's Departments, and the CHP for their formal review. We will keep Fifth District staff apprised of the progress of this review and the schedule and cost for the possible improvement.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Bill Higley at (626) 458-4016.

PJB:kw

P:\t\pub\wpfiles\files\pjb\Item 30 Benz.doc

Attach.

cc: Chief Administrative Office  
Executive Office



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Public Works

At its meeting held May 23, 3006, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

The Director of Public Works' recommendation to adopt traffic regulation order prohibiting eastbound traffic on Copper Hill Dr. from turning right at Buckhorn Lane, Santa Clarita area (5), from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

"Residents along Benz Road and Canterwood Drive in Santa Clarita are experiencing cut-through traffic by motorists traveling between Copper Hill Drive and Bouquet Canyon Road. Because this neighborhood includes areas within the City of Santa Clarita and County unincorporated areas, traffic engineers in both the City and the County are working together to identify a solution. A solution was identified that involved turn restrictions during the morning and evening commute periods at intersections bordering this community.

"Several residents, particularly those living on Buckhorn Lane, are concerned about the impact of the proposed turning restrictions upon their community. City and County staff brought together neighborhood representatives last week, and a compromise was reached. The compromise reduces the time period for the restriction that most impacts residents of Buckhorn Lane and involves reviewing issues associated with installing a fire gate at the intersection of Cross Creek Drive and Canterwood Drive."

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Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried (Supervisor Knabe being absent), the Board adopted the Director of Public Works' attached recommendation for traffic regulation orders with the modified time restriction to be from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. rather than from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and instructed the Director of Public Works to take the following additional actions:

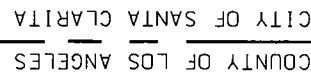
1. Monitor the cut-through traffic in this neighborhood once the signs restricting turns are installed;
2. Investigate the feasibility of installing a fire gate at the intersection of Cross Creek Drive and Canterwood Drive;
3. Solicit input from the Sheriff and Fire Department, as well as the local office of the California Highway Patrol, relative to safety and access issues associated with the proposed fire gate; and
4. Report back to the Board within 90 days concerning the effectiveness of the turn restrictions and the feasibility of installing the fire gate.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel



- EXISTING SIDEWALK TO REMAIN
- EXISTING SIDEWALK TO BE REMOVED
- LANDSCAPE (GRASS & IRRIGATION) IN WAY TO BE MAINTAINED BY ADJACENT
- PROPOSED SIDEWALK (4" PCC)
- PROPOSED DRIVEWAY

